As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled NOVEL TRANSALDOLASE GENE the specification of which was filed as PCT International Application No. PCT/JP00/06471 21.09.00 and was amended under PCT Article 19 on _ (if applicable). I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56. I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) on which priority is claimed: Country Application No. Filed (Day/Mo./Yr.) Priority Claimed (Yes/No) Japan' 266548/99 21 September 1999 Yes

I hereby appoint the practitioners associated with the firm and Customer Number provided below to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and direct that all correspondence be addressed to the address associated with that Customer Number:

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
Customer Number: 05514

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full Name of Sole or First Inventor Masato Ikeda
Inventor's Signature Masate Theday
Date March 8, 2002 Sitiren/Subject of JAPAN JAPAN
Date March 8, 2002 Sitizen/Subject of JAPAN Residence Tokyo, Japan
Post Office Address c/o Tokyo Research Laboratories, KYOWA HAKKO KOGYO CO., LTD.
6-6, Asahi-machi 3-chome, Machida-shi, Tokyo 194-8533 Japan
$\mathcal{I}\mathcal{N}$
Full Name of Second Joint Inventor, if any Yutaka Takano
Inventor's Signature Yutaka Jakano
Date March 8, 2002 Citizeh/Subject of JAPAN
Residence Tokyo, Japan
Post Office Address c/o Tokyo Research Laboratories, KYOWA HAKKO KOGYO CO., LTD.
6-6, Asahi-machi 3-chome, Machida-shi, Tokyo 194-8533 Japan
20
Full Name of Third Joint Inventor, if any Tetsuo Nakano
Inventor's Signature
Date March 11, 2002 Citizen/Aybject of JAPAN
Residence Ube-shi, Japan Span
Post Office Address c/o Ube Plant, KYOWA HAKKO KOGYO CO., LTD.
2548, Ohaza-Fujimagari, Ube-shi, Yamaguchi 75678501 Japan
$\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{N}$
Full Name of Fourth Joint Inventor, if any Nozomu Kamada
Inventor's Signature Nozone Kamach
Date March 8, 2002 Citizen/Subject of JAPAN
Residence Tokyo, Japan (S)
Post Office Address c/o Tokyo Research Laboratories, KYOWA HAKKO KOGYO CO., LTD.
6-6, Asahi-machi 3-chome, Machida-shi, Tokyo 194-8533 Japan